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LYNTON
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1959.

Devon



P

Town Hall,
LYNTON,
North Devon.

Tel: Nos:
Lynton 3288.
Lynton 2204.

LYNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Lynton Urban District Council.

Mrs. Slater and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my ANNUAL
REPORT for the year ended 31st December 1959.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.	Dr. M. P. Nightingale, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. "Kneesworth", Lee Road, Lynton. Private Tel: No: 2204.
Chief Public Health Inspector:	Mr. T.J. Loveless, A.I.A.S., M.A.P.H.I. Town Hall, Lynton. Tel: No: Lynton 3288.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres.....	7,628.
Population (reg.Gen.Mid-year Estimate)....	1,700.
Number of inhabited houses.....	590.
Rateable Value.....	£26,428.
Sum represented by ld. Rate.....	£110. 2. 4.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births: Legitimate: Males 10. Females 9.....	19
Live birth rate per 1,000 population.....	11.17
Still births:.....	Nil.
Still birthrate per 1,000 live and still-births.....	Nil.
Total live and still births.....	19.
Infant deaths.....	Nil.
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total....	Nil.
	- legitimate.Nil.
	-illegitimate Nil.
Neo Natal (first four weeks).....	Nil.
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births.	Nil.
Maternal deaths (including abortion).....	Nil.
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births.	Nil.

DEATHS.

Residents.....	Males 14	Females 8	Total.....	22.
Non-residents...	Males 2	Females 2	Total.....	4.

and of those deaths:-

1	had reached the age of 90.
7	" " " " " 80 and upwards.
8	" " " " " 70 " "
4	" " " " " 65 " "

Deaths from:

Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1
" " breast.....	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms...	4
Coronary Disease.....	4
Hypertension with heart disease.....	3
Other heart disease.....	7
Other Circulatory disease.....	2
Pneumonia.....	2
Suicide.....	2
Total..	<u>26</u>

Notifiable Diseases.

Food Poisoning.....	19
Measles.....	1
Tuberculosis.....	1
Pneumonia.....	1
Total	<u>22</u>

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

The Chest Clinic for this area is held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

Tuberculosis.

Treatment for tuberculosis is carried at the Hawley Sanatorium in the Borough of Barnstaple and at Hawkmoor Sanatorium near Bovey Tracey.

Venereal Disease.

There were no reports of Venereal Disease. The nearest centre for treatment is at Barnstaple North Devon Infirmary and any cases that occur in this Urban District go direct to Barnstaple.

Ambulance Service.

The responsibility for the provision of an Ambulance Service is maintained by the County Council and the Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided by the St. John's Ambulance Association. The staff consists of one part-time and eight volunteer members. The vehicle is garaged at Cross Street, Lynton. The Hospital Car Service is available on application by the Doctor to the Hospital.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

The nearest Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases is at the Kingsley Hospital, Bideford.

Maternity.

There are two beds for maternity cases at the Lynton and District Cottage Hospital with a fully qualified staff available. At the North Devon Infirmary there is an additional ward available for cases of difficulty. During 1959 the hospital was again obliged to close during August to November and was only open for emergencies; this was due to the shortage of nursing staff. There is every indication that this unfortunate position will occur again in the future unless more staff become available and it will be necessary for all Maternity Cases normally dealt with at Lynton to be taken the 20 miles to Barnstaple Infirmary.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Care.

Ante-natal and post natal clinics are conducted at the Lynton Cottage Hospital by each General Practitioner in co-operation with the Hospital Staff.

Hospitals.

The following information has been supplied by the Lynton and District Cottage Hospital:-

Admissions.....	134
Outpatients.....	1,020
Outpatients attendance.....	1,222

Home Helps Scheme.

The Home Nursing Service is carried out by one District Nurse in conjunction with Nursing and midwifery duties. In addition, assistance in the home is given by one Home Help.

Child Welfare.

The Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Jubilee Hall, Burvill St, and is open on the first and third Wednesday in the month.
Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination and Immunisation is carried out by the General Practitioners of the area and also at the Welfare Centre and School Clinics.

Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities are available for Bacteriological examinations of all kinds at the Public Health Laboratory, 7. Dix's Field, Exeter.

Water Supply.

The main water supply from the North Devon Water Board supply at Dean Steep, Lynton, remained satisfactory and despite a low rainfall no restrictions in the use of the water was found necessary.

The following samples of water have been taken from the main town and private supplies by the Council's Public Health Staff:-

North Devon Water Board Main Pipes Supply:

4 samples all equivalent to a class one piped supply.

Private Supplies:- 3 samples all equivalent to a class one piped supply.

Rainfalls.

The following figures of the rainfall ^{were} recorded on the Manor Grounds at Lynmouth during 1959.

January.	5.18
February.	.21
March.	3.92
April.	3.85
May.	1.57
June.	1.52
July.	2.79
August.	1.97
September.	.42
October.	6.29
November.	8.84
December.	<u>9.03</u>
Total (inches)	45.59

Swimming Pool.

Only one swimming pool is in operation in the Urban District this being under the Control of the Local Authority. The pool is situated on the Esplanade foreshore, Lynmouth, and is covered completely by each tide.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of and disposal of refuse both from household and trade premises was made weekly during the winter months and bi-weekly collections from the large houses during the holiday periods. Larger hotels and restaurants have received additional collections as necessary.

Rodent Control.

The refuse tip was frequently treated as in previous years with Warfarin and Zinc Phosphide and the results have been most satisfactory.

The number of complaints from private dwellings increased and the number of inspections made and infestations found was slightly above average. All treatments and investigations were carried out by the Council's part-time operator.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food premises in the district:-

<u>Type.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Bakehouses.....	1
Butcher's shops.....	4
Cafe and Restaurants.....	16
Confectioners.....	9
Dairies.....	1
Grocer's shops.....	8
Greengrocers.....	4
Fishmongers.....	1
Licensed Premises.....	10
Hotels and Boarding Houses.....	46
(unlicenced)	
Fish and Chip Shops.....	1

19 Food premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the sale of icecream.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-56.

90 visits were paid to food premises during the year and it was necessary in a number of cases to draw attention to the Food Hygiene Regulations and secure improvements. No formal action was necessary.

Meat Inspection.

The Private Slaughterhouse did not operate during 1959.

The following foodstuffs were condemned and disposed of by the Council at their refuse tip:-

Tinned Fruit	89 tins.
Tinned Meat.	35 "
Tinned Vegetables.	16 "
Other Tinned foods.	18 "
Cake.	30 lbs.
Fish.	40 lbs.
Raisins.	20 lbs. 12 ozs.
Cider.	1 pt.
Meat (other than from Slaughterhouse).	100 lbs.

Milk Supply.

Four purveyors of milk are registered as distributors in the district. One license to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested", two licenses to use the designation "Pasteurised" and two licenses to use the designation "Sterilised" were issued during the year.

Petroleum.

The number of licensed premises in the year was 8.

HOUSING.

(Article 31 of the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932.

- (a) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation..... 2
- (b) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority..... 2

- (c) Number of representations made to Local Authority with view to (1) the service of notices requiring execution of works or (2) the making of demolition or closing orders.....Nil.
- (d) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works.Nil.
- (e) Number of demolition orders made.....Nil.
- (f) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted.....Nil.
- (g) Number of houses demolished.....Nil.

FACTORIES.

Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health:-

Premises.	No. on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sec:1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	5	6	Nil.	Nil.
(iii) Other premises in which Sec:7 is enforced by the Local Authority, (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	5	6	Nil.	Nil.

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred.	
Want of Cleanliness (s.1.)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Ineffective drainage of floors. (s.6.)	-	-	-	-
Total	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

I have the honour to be
Mrs. Slater and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

M.P.NIGHTINGALE, M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

